

Message Text

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ACTION SS-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1978

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 3238

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, XM

SUBJECT: SEC VISIT LA

REF: STATE 086618/ 1

1. POLICY PROGRESS. AT THIS TIME THERE ARE NO ISSUES OR POLICY MATTERS AT A POINT APPROPRIATE FOR REACHING OR SIGNING ON AGREEMENT DURING THE SECRETARY' S VISIT. RATHER, MISSION REGARDS VISIT AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR LAYING FOUNDATION THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACTS FOR FUTURE DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION. THEMES CONTAINED IN STATE 084654 APPEAR PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE FOR EMPHASIS HERE IN CONVERSATIONS OF SECRETARY AND OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS.

2. PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENTS. I HAVE REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS FOR SECRETARY WITH PRESIDENT LANUSSE AND FOREIGN MINISTER MC LOUGHLIN AND I HAVE INITIATED DEMARCHE TO BENITO LLAMBI TO THE END OF SETTING UP APPOINTMENTS FOR SECRETARY WITH PRESIDENT- ELECT CAMPORA AND NEW FOREIGN MINISTER AND POSSIBLY OTHERS.

3. OTHER MEETINGS. COUNTRY TEAM HAS CONSIDERED AT LENGTH PROPOSAL THAT SECRETARY MEET WITH SMALL GROUP OF LEADERS OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT. IN THE CONTEXT OF THE INAUGURATION PERIOD, COUNTRY TEAM HAS CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS REGARDING FEASIBILITY AND
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DESIRABILITY OF THIS PROPOSAL. WITH RESPECT TO FEASIBILITY, THE

SHORT PERIOD OF THE SECRETARY'S STAY WILL BE SO PREOCCUPIED WITH CEREMONIES AND OTHER EVENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE INAUGURATION THAT MANY KEY PEOPLE WHO EMBASSY BELIEVES SHOULD BE INVITED PROBABLY ON THIS SESSION.

11. PRESS MATTERS: CHAIRMAN ASKED GROUP TO REVIEW LATEST EXT OF PRESS STATEMENT WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO CANADIAN REVISIONS OF PARA 5 AND 6. US REP SUGGESTED DELETION OF PHRASE " COMPLETE SURPRISE" IN SEVENTH SENTENCE OF PARA 5 TO AVOID GIVING PRESS IMPRESSION THAT WEST WAS WHOLLY UNPREPARED FOR THE EASTERN POSITION ON HUNGARY. HE ALSO PROPOSED REORDING FOURTH SENTENCE OF PARA 6 TO READ " TO MAKE THIS CLEAR, THE PACKAGE CONTAINS AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE PROCEDURES AND PARTICIPAION, INCLUDING AN ALLIED STATEMENT WHICH IS NOT CONTRADICTED, THAT THE NATURE OF HUNGARY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESENT TALS DOES NOT PREJUDICE THE PARTICIPATION OF HUNGARY IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS OR AGREEMENTS."

12. ITALIAN REP OBJECTED TO PRESENT WORDING OF PARA 7 AND PROPOSED NEW WORDING DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE REFERENCE TO DROPPING ITALY- HUNGARY LINKAGE. ITALIAN REP SAID THIS WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE HIS AUTHORITIES HAD NEVER DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF THE LINK AND WERE NOT CONVINCED THAT IT HAD BEEN DROPPED. BELGIAN REP STRESSED NEED TO DISTINGUISH STATUS OF HUNGARY FROM THAT OF SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS AND PROPOSED FURTHER CHANGES TO ITALIAN WORDING. US REP SAID THAT GROUP RISKED WEAKENING WESTERN ARGUMENTS BY DELETING FROM THE PRESS STATEMENT POINTS IN WEST'S FAVOR.

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13. REVISED PARA 7 AS IT EMERGED FROM GROUP DISCUSSION IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE KEEPING IN MIND THE UNIQUE SITUATION OF HUNGARY, THE STATUS OF ALL OTHER SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING ITALY, IS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED IN THE ARRANGEMENT AND NOT OPEN TO QUESTION. THE PHRASE ' APPROPRIATE CONDITIONS' IN THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE HUNGARIAN REP INDICATES IN OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ACTUAL CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH HUNGARY MAY AGREE TO PARTICIPATE, EITH FULLY OR IN INDIVIDUAL MEANSURES, WILL IN PRACTICE BE DETERMINED BY THE OVERALL NEGOTIATING SITUATION AT THE TIME. NO SP
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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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